

outreach campaign, Broward > AIDS, for working to increase HIV testing and end stigma. Together with effective, evidence-based policies that address barriers to HIV testing and access to treatment and care, we know that we can overcome HIV/AIDS.

COLORADO RAILROAD MUSEUM

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and applaud the Colorado Railroad Museum for receiving the Living Landmark Award.

The Living Landmark Award is presented by the Golden Landmarks Association, a non-profit organization which works to preserve historic places and educate people about the wonderful history the Golden area has to offer.

The Colorado Railroad Museum has provided an interesting and colorful history of railroading unique to the Western United States. Railroads have been instrumental in Colorado's history by encouraging the economy, migration, and culture to flourish. In 1959, Robert W. Richardson and Cornelius W. Hauck opened the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden.

The museum houses the largest repository for Colorado's railroad history and nearly 100,000 people visit the museum every year. In the late 90's the museum added a climate-controlled library to house books, photographs, and corporate records and added an authentic roundhouse and turntable to restore and maintain the historic equipment. To instill in today's youth a love for trains and railroads, The Colorado Railroad Museum offers train rides every weekend and hosts the Thomas the Tank Engine event every year.

The Colorado Railroad Museum is ranked among the top 25 Denver area historical and cultural attractions and has been recognized by the Smithsonian Institute, American Association of State and Local History, and Colorado Historical Society for its work preserving railroad history in the Rocky Mountains.

I am honored to congratulate the Colorado Railroad Museum; I know they will work to provide an understanding and passion of railroads for future generations.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL MICHEL RUSSELL

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Michel Russell, on the occasion of his return home from duty in Afghanistan.

In his role as a United States Army Brigade Commander, Mr. Russell was uniquely responsible for over 50,000 United States Army Soldiers, Department of Army Civilians and contractors from private industry, a command of equivalent size to an entire Army Corps.

Colonel Russell was commander of the 401st Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB) during a unique period in time. As a result of the

Presidential directed drawdown of military forces in Afghanistan, Colonel Russell was responsible for ensuring the redeployment of equipment in addition to the 401st AFSB's traditional functions of sustaining theater forces with quality of life products such as food, warfighting equipment such as MRAPS, and developing and fielding emerging technologies to increase force protection and quality of life for soldiers.

Colonel Russell and his team of soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and private industry contractors created from scratch the Afghanistan redeployment process. This process is responsible for maintaining, repairing, and removing thousands of pieces of equipment out of Afghanistan and back to the Continental United States or other locations where United States Forces are stationed.

Colonel Russell and his team serve as the "Face to the Field" for the United States Army Materiel Command, the United States Army Sustainment Command and the 3rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, providing all war fighters the equipment they need in the Afghanistan Theater to fight America's enemies who harbor ill-will toward freedom.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Colonel Michel Russell for his steadfast commitment to the U.S. Army, his fellow soldiers, and his nation. We owe our freedom to men like Colonel Russell, whose devotion to our nation will forever be remembered and appreciated.

RECOGNIZING DR. RICHARD CROWE ASTRONOMER-IN-RESIDENCE, IMILOA ASTRONOMY CENTER OF HAWAII, AND CO-FOUNDER, ASTRONOMER PROGRAM—UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Richard A. Crowe of Hilo, Hawaii—an extraordinary man whose loss is deeply felt. For the past few decades, Dr. Crowe's leadership in the fields of astronomy and physics and his profound love of teaching has influenced generations of islanders throughout East Hawaii and our island state.

Dr. Crowe was a vital part of the University of Hawaii at Hilo: the co-founder of the astronomy program and the Astronomer-In-Residence at the Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawaii, which is affiliated with the university. A beloved professor, Dr. Crowe inspired many to follow in his footsteps and pursue careers in astronomy.

Dr. Crowe also shared his passion for astronomy with Hawaii Island's younger students. His portable planetarium could be found in public school classrooms throughout Hilo, helping Dr. Crowe to get students excited about astronomy.

He was committed to community and public service—participating in the Hawaii County Band, the Kanilehua Chorale, and the local rotary club.

We remember and honor Dr. Crowe, and I join with his family, friends, colleagues, and students in giving thanks for his life of service and inspiration.

His greatest legacy continues to be the many who have discovered their own love for the stars and galaxies above us through his influence. Dr. Crowe and his teachings will never be forgotten.

Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much).

HONORING THE LADYWOOD BLAZERS

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Ladywood Blazers, Michigan High Athletic Association Division II Softball Champions, from my hometown of Livonia upon winning their first state title.

Led by Head Coach Scott Combs, the Blazers won the Central Division of the Catholic High School League and went on to defeat Farmington Hills Mercy to earn the CHSL A-B Division championship.

Ladywood came out swinging in their opening round of district play, overpowering Livonia Clarenceville, 17-0. The Blazers eliminated Dearborn Divine Child, 4-0, in the District 58 final and advanced to regional competition. First round opponent Detroit Kettering forfeited but the down time did not affect the Blazers as they erased Center Line, 13-0 and claimed the Region 15 title. Advancing to quarterfinal action, Ladywood defeated St. Clair, 4-2 and then tamed the Wildcats of Wayland Union by an identical 4-2 score in the semi-final round to earn a berth in the state final.

The Blazers had been in the state final in 2009, losing a heartbreaker to Niles. It was a long ride home from Battle Creek as runners-up. This time Ladywood wouldn't be denied as they shutout Saginaw Swan Valley, 4-0 and hoisted the Division II State Championship Softball trophy on June 16, 2012 to close out a stellar 39-3 season.

Mr. Speaker, the Ladywood Blazers and Head Coach Scott Combs, having compiled an impressive 170-31 record over the last 5 years, deserve to be recognized for their determination, achievement, and spirit. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Ladywood Blazers for obtaining this spectacular title and honoring their devotion to our community and country.

VIRGINIA LARSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Virginia Larson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Virginia Larson is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Virginia Larson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.